



Budget and Policy Achievements in the 66th Legislature:

SB 132: Student Safety Accountability Act

This OPI requested legislation recognizes that students are a protected class and that school officials are in a position of trust over them, therefore, students should not be able to consent to sexual contact with school officials. Further, it criminalizes those in a school setting who aid an individual in gaining employment if they have probable cause to believe that said individual has engaged in sexual misconduct with a student.

This legislation has important exemptions so that student-to-student relationships and relationships between recent graduates are not criminalized.

HB 61: Revise Student Data Privacy Laws

The OPI and the Montana University System have requested a change to statute to allow for sharing of student ACT scores (if the student consents) to provide better post-secondary opportunities for Montana students.

HB 127: Generally Revise Laws Related to School Payments

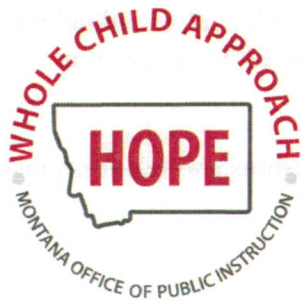
The OPI has requested that the state payment schedule to schools be revised to better align with state treasury receipts. This will prevent school payments from being used as political capital during tight budget periods.

HB 601: Transfer Funds Within OPI for School Safety Professional Development Grants

The OPI made a promise to Montana students to increase school safety training. This piece of legislation allows school districts to apply for school safety professional development grants that give teachers, administrators, and other school district personnel skills to combat mental and physical threats to students.



Superintendent Arntzen's Initiatives to Make Montana Proud:



- Family, student, and community engagement
- Safety, mental health, and suicide prevention



- Celebrating teacher excellence and extending leadership opportunities
- Teacher retention and recruitment



- Closing achievement gaps
- Improving math and reading with a focus on middle school



- STEM, CTE, and workforce development emphasis beginning in middle school
- Expanding industry, military, and post-secondary partnership